

Danger of Methotrexate / stopping the process

Doctor indicted on abortion charges

NEW YORK, May 25, 2000 (Reuters) — A doctor, who allegedly stabbed his pregnant mistress with a syringe filled with a labour-inducing drug, pleaded not guilty to assault and abortion charges.

Authorities said Dr Stephen Pack, 44, was indicted on two counts of assault and abortion — for allegedly stabbing Joy Schepis, 31, in the thigh and buttocks in April with a syringe containing methotrexate, a drug that can produce contractions in pregnant women.

A married father of two and an emergency-room physician at Montefiore Hospital in New York, pack was allegedly having an affair with Schepis, a nurse, Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson's office said. The woman is still pregnant and her foetus is not believed to have suffered any damage, although doctors say it will take several more months to know for sure.

Please pray for Joy Schepis!!

We've been in contact with Joy Schepis, the nurse recently attacked by the father of her unborn child, who used a needle filled with the abortion chemical methotrexate. Joy's sister is a Christian, but Joy is not yet a believer. Pray for her salvation as she reads the Bible and materials we sent to her. Also keep praying for her pregnancy, now in it's 9th. week.

From: Gateway Today, April 2000



Mother Who Endured Abortion Injection Has Baby Boy 12/5/2000

By Tanya L. Green, J.D

New York, NY—Happy mom Joy Schepis—who was injected with an abortion-inducing drug, allegedly by her enraged former lover—took home a healthy baby boy last Sunday.

The 7-pound, 6-ounce infant—named Michael, for the saint who fought off Satan—went home bundled in a white crocheted jumper laced with blue ribbons and cradled in his mom's arms.

“It feels good to be home,” she said moments after leaving the [White Plains Hospital Center](#) and arriving at her Thornwood home in [Westchester County](#). “So far so good,” she said, elated that the chubby-cheeked boy, born Tuesday evening, got a clean bill of health from doctors.

“He seems fine. I don't know what long-term medical affects he'll have.”

“Right now, he's perfect,” she said beaming as she looked down at the sleeping baby. “He's beautiful.”

The baby survived despite his mom being [forcibly injected](#) with the abortion drug [methotrexate](#) on April 14 while she walked outside [Montefiore Hospital](#) in The Bronx, where she works.

Immediately following the attack—allegedly at the hands of Dr. Stephen Pack, who's been charged with assault and committing an abortifacient act—Schepis asked everyone to pray for her baby.

She refused an abortion, despite warnings from doctors that the drug could cause severe birth defects.

“I'd like to thank [everyone] for their prayers. We're OK,” she said. “It was a long haul, but he pulled through.”

Schepis' immediate plans are to be a stay-at-home mom. “I'm not going back [to work] for about four months,” she said inside the tiny home she shares with her parents. “I worked a couple of jobs over the last three or four months. I worked until I was 37 weeks. I put the money on the side so I could stay home and we can get acquainted with one another.”

It's also a chance for her 3-year-old son, Matthew, to get to know his baby brother. “We got him a big-brother shirt,” Schepis said. “He's so excited. He just met him.”

Source: Concerned Women for America: 12/5/2000

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Because methotrexate can cause serious liver disease, patients with alcoholism or liver disease should not receive it. Patients should curtail alcohol consumption while taking methotrexate. Methotrexate can suppress the body's immunity. Therefore, any symptoms of infection should be reported to the doctor. Patients with underlying immune deficiency diseases should not receive methotrexate. A dry, non-productive cough can be a result of a rare lung toxicity. Methotrexate can impair fertility, decrease sperm count and cause menstrual dysfunction. Safety and effectiveness has not been established in children.

PREGNANCY: Methotrexate should not be used in pregnancy, as it can be toxic to the embryo and can cause fetal defects and spontaneous abortion (miscarriage). It should be discontinued prior to conception if used in either partner. Male patients should stop taking methotrexate at least 3 months prior to a planned conception and females should discontinue use for at least one ovulatory cycle before conception.

SIDE EFFECTS: Methotrexate can be well tolerated, but also can cause severe toxicity which is usually related to the dose taken. The most frequent reactions include mouth sores, stomach upset, and low white blood counts. Methotrexate can cause severe toxicity of the liver and bone marrow, which require regular monitoring with blood testing. It can cause headache and drowsiness, which may resolve if the dose is lowered. Methotrexate can cause itching, skin rash, dizziness, and hair loss. A dry, non-productive cough can be a result of a rare lung toxicity.